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WAR MEASURE TO BE APPLIED TO SUGAR

Attorney-General's Aid Says
Brokers' Old Licenses Are Still in Effect.

BEGINS INQUIRY TO-DAY

Hoover Blames President Wilson for Not Buying the Entire Cuban Crop.

Arnold W. Riley, special assistant to Attorney General Mitchell Palmer, announced yesterday that the Government would attempt to obtain a fair distribution of the sugar supply of the country by means of a sweeping investigation of sugar brokers who ignore the conditions of their Federal licenses, which are still in effect, despite the frequent assertions of sugar men to the contrary. Mr. Riley will begin his investigation to-day, when he will preside at the first of a "series of informal meetings" with three representatives of the sugar men appointed by their colleagues in Washington last week.

Mr. Riley's announcement of contemplated Government action followed close upon the appearance of Herbert Hoover before the Lusk Committee of the Legislature, which is investigating the high cost of living. Mr. Hoover testified that the present enormous high retail cost of sugar is 100 per cent. in excess of what it would be had President Wilson and his cabinet heeded the advice of the Sugar Equalization Board last July. The board, Mr. Hoover said, wanted to buy the entire Cuban sugar crop of 1919-1920 which was offered at 9¢ cents a pound. Had that been done sugar today would cost the retail purchaser 12 cents a pound, whereas it was quoted at 21½ cents wholesale yesterday and late in the afternoon was advanced to 22½ cents, according to an announcement by the American Sugar Refining Company. This is the third advance within a week and a statement issued by the company said it was necessitated by the increasing cost of raw sugar.

The "informal meetings" which Mr. Riley will begin to-day will have a deeper purpose than the mere punishing violators of the law. Mr. Riley said that when sugar dealers are confronted with the evidence of violations of their war time license agreements it is the usual thing for them to attempt to evade responsibility by pleading that they thought the war legislation was no longer in effect.

"These licenses are most emphatically still in effect," said Mr. Riley, "and it is part of the Government's present task to bring this fact to the dealers' attention. We will stop the practice of selling sugar at prices based upon replacement value instead of cost. Through this means speculators have been reselling stocks purchased at 9 to 10 cents for the prices now current in the market, realizing as much as 100 per cent. profit. Under a recent court decision it is illegal to do this."

Mr. Hoover told the Lusk committee that despite the underproduction of sugar there was sufficient at hand to supply the legitimate needs of the United States at legitimate prices.

Mr. Hoover's discussion of sugar prices consumed the greater part of the hour that he spent answering the questions put to him by Samuel A. Borer, Deputy Attorney-General. He started out by stating what he believed to be

the contributing causes of high prices.

First—Shortage in commodities due to the under production of Europe and to our participation therein through the drain upon us by exports.

Second—Inflation, more especially in its expansion of credit facilities for the purpose of speculation and non-essential industry. Perhaps that would be more correctly stated not for the purpose, but their use.

Third—Profiteering and speculation arising from the combined opportunity in the two previous items.

Fourth—Matter of adjustment of taxation, particularly the excess profits tax.

Fifth—Decrease in our own productivity, due to relaxation of effort since the war, to strikes and other causes.

Sixth—Increase in our own consumption, the waste of commodities and increase in extravagance.

Seventh—Deterioration of our transport system during the war, and

Eighth—An expensive and wasteful distribution system and other less important causes.

Mr. Hoover said that the curtailment of credits for speculative and non-essential investments, undertaken by the banks recently, was a surgical operation that will require the best skill of the whole banking community to avoid the difficulties that may flow from a too abrupt handling of the knife. On the other hand, he said, it offers one of the best roads to reduction of speculation and profiteering.

"It is my view, however," he added, "that speculation and profiteering cannot be stemmed by prosecution for the simple reason that an economic force cannot be managed by a policeman."

"Our present adjustment of taxation tends to unduly increase the cost of living, more particularly in the cases of the excess profits tax. No one denies that our large burden of taxation must be borne for many years in some graduated form by the individuals enjoying the larger incomes of the country. The excess profits tax, however, has failed to accomplish this and is to-day in effect being distributed per capita on the population. The tax was imposed at a time when the margins between cost and sale in large industry were under arbitrary war regulation, and as the primary object of the Government in the war was to stimulate production, these margins were made sufficiently wide to protect the highest cost producer. In consequence the low cost producer made undue profits and the excess profits tax was conceived as a method of returning these overcharges to the public."

MOVIES LURED GIRL ACROSS CONTINENT

She's Home, but Wants Daddy to Go Back With Her.

After having travelled 1,000 miles to become a movie star, Henrietta Bulle, fourteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bulle of 116 East 116th street, yesterday arrived from Los Angeles in charge of a representative of the Bureau of Missing Persons and was returned to her parents in the office of Acting Captain John Ayers, at Police Headquarters. The girl had been missing since April 12. She was located by the New York bureau May 17, two hours after she had obtained employment as a child's nurse with a family in Hollywood, Cal.

Her to draw from the bank. Henrietta has \$200 of her own in bank, and she considers that she is entitled to half the sum for a trip to establish her in her desired profession. She had \$18 left when she returned and travelled from Chicago to Sweden, Cal., where she worked four days as a waitress in the Harvey System restaurant, without having to pay her fare.

When she left here, on April 12, without any one's knowledge, she had \$245 in her purse, money her father had asked

THREATEN FALLON FOR COACHING NICKY

Surety Counsel Say They Will Have Him Cited for Contempt.

ARNSTEIN HOLDS SILENCE

Refuses to Answer Questions in Heated Hearing Before U. S. Commissioner.

William J. Fallon, chief counsel for Nicky Arnstein, was threatened with contempt proceedings yesterday in the midst of a warm tilt with United States Commissioner Alexander C. Gilchrist, Jr., and Seiden Baron, one of the attorneys representing the surety companies that are pressing the case against Arnstein.

The Commissioner, angered at side remarks that Mr. Fallon was making to his client the course of an examination, told him he would have to behave differently or Nicky would have to get another attorney to represent him in the bankruptcy proceedings.

Mr. Fallon demanded that Mr. Fallon's actions be noted on the record, saying, "Within the next few days when I apply to the court to have Arnstein punished for contempt I intend to make an application to punish Mr. Fallon also."

Mr. Fallon's retort was, "Oh, you're always going to punish some one for something, but you never do it."

One thing that precipitated this row was the apparent absurdity of Arnstein's refusal to answer certain questions on the ground they might tend to incriminate him. One of these questions was, "Did you retain the firm of Fallon & Morice to act as your attorneys in these proceedings?" The Commissioner said it could not possibly incriminate Arnstein to answer such a question.

Arnstein offered the same excuse when he was asked if he had heard a conversation between "Big Nick" Cohn, the alleged master mind of the bond thefts, and Joe Gluck, the boy who has confessed to thefts of upward of \$1,500,000. "But you wouldn't be incriminating yourself if you were to admit that you heard two other people in conversation," the Commissioner said. Still Nicky refused to answer.

The greater part of the hearing was given over to getting the record into shape for the contempt proceedings that the lawyers for the surety companies have said they will bring against Nicky, and many questions asked him at last week's hearings were repeated. Nicky remained a Sphinx. He refused to answer anything and everything.

When the Commissioner held his excuse to be invalid and ordered him to answer Nicky would say, "I really can't answer that, sir, with all due respect to you, sir."

Sam S. Myers, attorney for the National Surety Company, with whom Mr. Bacon is associated in the conduct of the proceedings, spent the day in Washington, May 24.—Vice-President Marshall to-day named Senators Lodge and Walsh of Massachusetts, Harding of Ohio and Underwood of Alabama as Senate members of the Pilgrim Tercentenary Commission.

BODY OF AUDITORE MAY BE EXHUMED

Prosecutor Likely to Favor Request of Brother.

The body of Joseph Auditore, stevedore, who died May 9 in the home of Miss Jennie Lebonaky, in West Seventy-second street, Manhattan, leaving an estate of \$2,000,000, may be exhumed this week to determine the cause of his death.

District Attorney Lewis of Kings county said yesterday after an interview with James Auditore, the dead man's brother, and his lawyer, Franklin Taylor, that he might apply to the Supreme Court for an order to exhume the body.

"Nobody has made any definite charge," Mr. Lewis said. "For reasons of public policy, however, it may be advisable to exhume the body. If I obtain certain facts to-day I will ask for an order permitting exhumation so that this office may know whether there is any basis for suspicion."

The request of Auditore's brother for the examination of the body is based, according to the District Attorney, upon "the unusual character of the will, the fact that it was drawn two days before death and the surrounding circumstances and conditions."

The bulk of Auditore's estate is left to his wife and children, but there is a bequest of \$50,000 for a physician, who, it is understood, is to turn the money over to Miss Lebonaky, John J. Kean, counsel for Mrs. Auditore, the widow, also conferred with Mr. Lewis yesterday.

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EPISCOPAL PENSION FUND PAID \$325,000

934 Retired Clergy and Kin Benefited Last Year.

The sum of \$325,000 was paid last year by the Church Pension Fund of the Episcopal Church to 934 retired clergymen and the widows and orphans of clergymen, according to the second annual report of the treasurer, J. P. Morgan. The report was made public yesterday by Monell Sayre, secretary.

At the present time the fund, which was started by donations of \$5,000,000, amounts to \$12,000,000. It is supported by a tax on all Episcopal churches of 7½ per cent. of the salary paid to the clergymen. These payments amounted in 1919 to \$665,000. About 98 per cent. of the churches paid regularly. The present value of its pension promises to clergymen still in active service is more than \$6,000,000. The Right Rev. William Lawrence, Bishop of Massachusetts, is president.

Fire on Japanese Ship Put Out.

The steamer Bayo Maru, en route from Newport News to Rotterdam, had to put into the lower bay here yesterday to receive the liquid ministrations of the fireboat William J. Gaynor, which was summoned by wireless. A fire in her cargo of 7,000 tons of coal got beyond control of her crew. She is owned by a firm of Japanese Importers and exporters here.



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